CoNNeCT

DEC/JAN #2

ARTICLES ON:

the jam, motown mAdness

The Who, poetry, FANZINE Reviews

CrACKed acTor contest- MORE

Interviews with

THE EFFIGIES,

J.F.Δ., echo & the bunnymen

65¢

CHEAP!!

ONE WAY

MJ Here!,

Well here we are issue #2 already! We've gotten some positive response. (Not as much as we'd like, so keep those letters coming!) We need some help on our 'Address Page'-(Political, Social addresses to help people) for issue #3. We'd also like some 'Scene Reports', Poetry, photos, gripes need I go on? Thanks for all the help and feed back!!

MJ Castriotta
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USA

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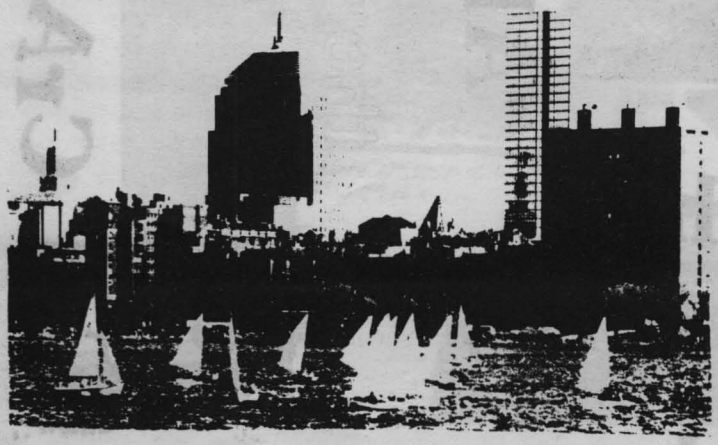
Thanks to our Distributors;John Trash, Sandra Messina, Randee, Vicki Jennings, Paul Hendlin, David, Doreen, Missy, Cheryl Wenner and Ron Rimsite.

Special Thanks to...Cracked Actor, The Effigies, Michael of Jodie Foster's Army Brian of Rudi and KK...
Till next time.....

IN THE HUB...

Rick Harte is busy producing both the NEIGHBORHOODS and the LYRES for his Ace of Hearts label.Don't hold your breath waiting for these discs, though. The 'Hoods EP should've been released Oct.81;does this mean we can expect the new Lyres 45 around Spring of 1985????...BOY'S LIFE has a new bassist and will be playing the clubs again soon.An EP,produced by David Robinson, is also in the works... rumour has it the OUTLETS are gonna split in January-hope it's only temporary...the REAL KIDS have a new LP called "Outta Place".Sounds good to me...007 returned from their gig in Conneticut in time to play at the WMBR benefit at the Rat Dec.12... that evening was made even more memorable by the world premiere of the BILLYGOONS movie,narrated by Blowfish. Must be seen to be believed...Czech Records put out a 12" EP by a new "band" in town,FLIES.The group is actually the brain-child of ex-Streets doorman Nat Freedberg.Other musicians on the EP include members of 007, the Dangerous Birds and the now-defunct 21-645...the DEL FUEGOS first 45(also on Czech)should be out soon...Welcome home,MISSION OF BURMA. The band completed a 19-city tour of the South and Northeast,coinciding w/the release of vs., their first LP on Ace of Hearts...that's it for now



JULIA

Cover and insert photos by MJ ©82

AN INTERVIEW WITH RAY AND PAUL OF THE

EFFIGIES

Interview by MJ & SUSAN
Edited and written by MJ

The Effigies reside in Chicago, they've been together for a few years now. We got together with Ray and Paul on their recent gigs in Boston.

Paul tells us the tour has expanded their audience immensely, D.C. seemed to be a favorite place. It was 'wild' as Ray would say!

Musically Chicago was stagnating when the Effigies began. "There was absolutely nothing going on-it was real new wave, artsey types" Ray informed us. Paul feels it helped them out that there were no other 'High energy punk bands' around, except for 'Naked Raygun and 'Trail by Fire'. (Which are both on the Effigies record label-Ruthless.) They were the ice breakers and will put Chicago on the map!

Hardcore seems to be a stereotyped label, we asked Paul if they considered themselves 'hardcore'. "Not in the same sense alot of bands consider themselves, its hurting us because noone wants to book us because we are 'hardcore!" Ray thinks hardcore is a shitty label and would rather be considered 'Effigies Music' rather than hardcore because "We don't play 90mph and every song doesn't sound like the last one". Ray goes on, "We have alot to say, we're not like Black Flag, or Discharge though". Paul interrupts, "And these people who cop attitudes about making money. If a band doesn't make money they don't survive, sleeping on floors for four years and living on 5 dollars a day-You loose your ambition after awhile. If they change their style to make money then their ass holes". Ray expands on the idea; "People like the Dead Kennedys who preach against that, they make between 4-8 thousand dollars a show". Paul goes on, "They've dug their own grave, everywhere I go, everyone's lost interest, Biafra gives a sermon between every song, he's just spinning his wheels now". Ray interrupts, " When he starts preaching politics, half these kids are living with their parents anyway. What the fuck do they care about politics right now, Politics are pretty much a personal thing".

I was curious to see how the gigs went at the Rat. (They did an All Ages show as well as an over 20 show.) Paul said the Rat gigs went really well especially the all ages show. I was not hestitant to tell them what happened with the bouncers at the Proletariat/Burma show in September. Ray said the bouncers were 'cool', "They obviously weren't trying to beat up anybody, they were obviously told to cool off." I personally wish bouncers didn't exist which brought up C.O.D.s-a club in Chicago. Paul informed us at C.O.D.s kids can get in, bouncers don't bother anybody-"Bouncers aren't needed because the punks police themselves". Boston should do something, everyone talks about getting all ages shows, but noone does anything about it. We need unity but everyone is too busy fighting amoungst each other. Paul interrupts, "Punks are never gonna unite; you can't preach people, you can't tell people you gotta be straight edge. If someone wants to shoot heroin it ain't gonna bother me".

The future for the Effies looks promising. They may be on the next 'OI' lp due out in February. And they've been in contact with Greenworld Distributors in L.A. which should help them alot! They just released a new single called "Security". You can get in touch with them at;

c/o RUTHLESS RECORDS
P.O. BOX 1458
EVANSTON, ILL 60204

THE WHO AT THE CENTRUM

WORCESTER, MASS

DECEMBER 11, 1982

MJ Castriotta

What an amazing show!

The energy level was exceeding limits! The whole place was dancing about, and just letting themselves go!

They opened up with 'My Generation', and even though they're old geezers this song still holds its ground! Most of the material was older-'Behind Blue Eyes', '5:15', 'Won't Get Fooled Again', Boris the Spider' etc. The song choices were ace!

The highlight for me was when my buddy Nancy got a pass to meet them! She has liked The Who forever it seems and deserved the chance to meet them! (Even if they are after all only human!). And they didn't act like lazy, snotty pop stars either. I'm sure some would like to stick them into that category.

I'm glad they reconized the moment in time when it was time to pack it in. I gotta give them credit where credit is due.

Looking back on their career they've had many ups and downs, from Moon's death, Cinncinatti trauma, being Mods in the 60's, Pete's excessive drinking need I go on? It all seems redundant in a way-the bitter memories anyway. Its hard to see a bad side when you're saying farewell. Saying good bye is too permanant for me.

We say farewell to The Who as a tour band. But we do have 20 years of unforgetable memories in vinyl! And the future?

"ROCK IS DEAD THEY SAY....."

Psst...hey you...wanna win a new 45 put out by this real good band from N.Y. called Cracked Actor.

Its kinda hard to categorize these guys. "Nazi School", the A-side, is hard core influenced, but slow enough so yo can understand the words. "Judy In Disguise" (yeah, you're right-it was done originally by Fred and the Playboy Band) is straight out, energetic rock.

Cracked Actor is a four man band inspired by everyone from Chuck Berry to the D.C.5 to the N.Y.Dolls to Sid. (Told ya it'dbe hard to peg them!) They've been together for about 3 yrs. mostly playing in their home state of New York, however they should hit Boston by early '83 at the latest. The band can be reached through Death Records PO Box 32 Lake Grove, N.Y. 11755

Any way, if you want to win their 45, be one of the first 2 people who can identify this famous pair of eyes Hint: think Hollywood. Contest deadline is Jan.25,1983

MAIL ENTRIES TO:

JULIA CARMEL
349 LINWOOD AVE.
NEWTON, MASS.
02160

I Must learn - to be happy about what I have, and not what I don't have.
I should bring my insights in... and not try and reach for something that's behind a "glass window"

RANDEE

LEFT TO RIGHT:
RICK CONA (LD. GUITAR)
DOUG MEECH (DRUMS)
ANDY BABIUK (BASS)
GREG PREVOST (VOCALS)
ORI GURAN (GUITAR + ORGAN)

CHESTERFIELD KINGS

I KEEP INSISTING THAT THE CHESTERFIELD KINGS ARE THE GREATEST GROUP IN AMERICA TODAY!! WHY? CAUSE THEY'VE DISTILLED EVERYTHING THAT'S COOL AROUT THE SIXTIES ROCK & ROLL EXPERIENCE INTO ONE BAND! IT'S ALL THERE - THE BRIAN JONES MOP HAIR, BEATLE BOOTS, VOX AMPS, ORGAN, FUZZ GUITAR SOLOS, VOCAL HARMONIES... HELL, THEY'RE COOLER THAN THE MOSQUITOS ON GILLIGAN'S ISLAND!!! THE CHESTERFIELD KINGS COME FROM ROCHESTER, N.Y. WHERE THEIR LIVE IN-PERSON SHOWS ARE PACKED WITH LOTS OF TEEN GALS IN MINI-SKIRTS AND GUYS IN GRANNY GLASSES. THIS IS WHERE THE REAL SCENE IS... NOT NEW YORK CITY, LA, OR ENGLAND! THEY HAVE SO FAR RELEASED 2 GREAT 45s ON THEIR OWN "LIVING EYE" RECORD LABLE AND WILL HAVE THEIR FIRST LONG-PLAYING ALBUM OUT IN SHOPPES REAL SOON. THEY ALSO SHOULD BE TOURING MORE ON THE EAST COAST AND TAKE IT FROM ME, THEY ARE ONE GREAT LIVE COMBO! THE THING THAT I LIKE MOST ABOUT THE CHESTERFIELD KINGS, THOUGH, IS THE FACT THAT IN THIS DAY OF RAP-FUNK-REGGAE, SYNTHESIZED DISCO-NEW WAVE-ETC, ETC, THERE'S STILL ONE GROUP LEFT WHO CAN BRING BACK THE DAYS OF INNOCENCE AND PURENESS IN MUSIC THAT HAVE ALMOST DISAPPEARED. GOD BLESS THE CHESTERFIELD KINGS!

—RON RIMSITE

IAN "MAC" of ECHO AND THE BUNNYMEN

Interview and photos by BANDEE

1. What was your most embarrassing moment on stage?
"Leaping on some shaven head in Toronto for not being very appreciative. And ripping my vecks".

2. What's your idea of living happily ever after?
"Staying in love".

3. What happens when you fall in love?
"You feel better than you've ever felt".

4. Do you have a close friend?
"Yes, my fiancee".

5. What are your hobbies?
"Telephoning".

6. What inspired you to join a band?
"My brain".

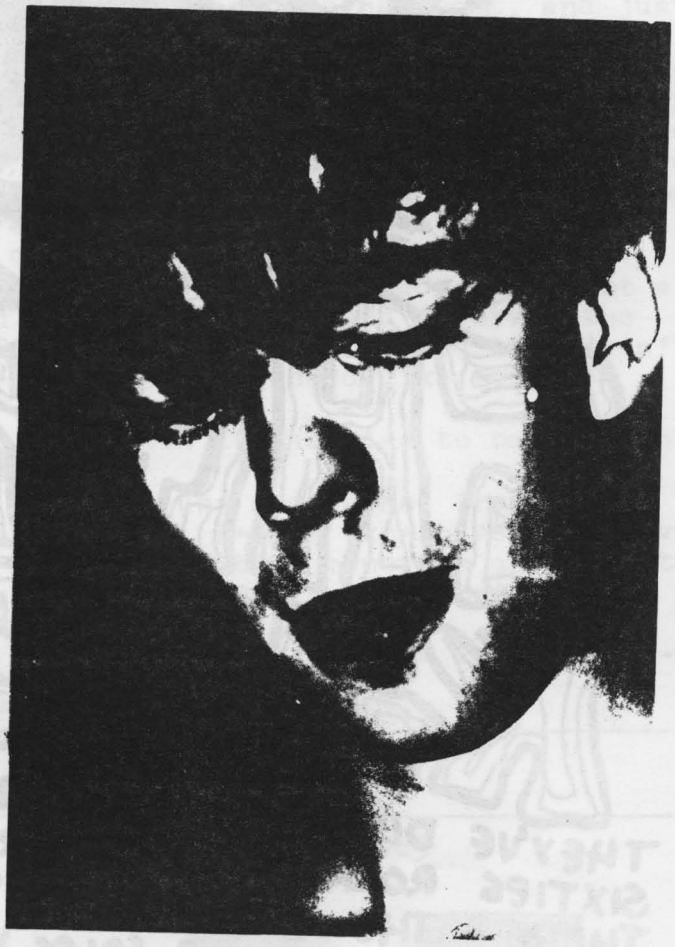
7. What was your first ambition?
"To be the Silver Surfer".

8. Who where you most excited about meeting?
"Leonard Cohen-I haven't met yet".

9. What's your favorite T.V. Show?
"The Prisoner".

10. Which foreign country is your favorite?
"Fave foreign cities-Brussels/Amsterdam".

11. What makes you mad?
"MADNESS".



12. 10 things you can't live without;
"My fiancee", "A good pair of mocassins", "A black t-shirt", An overcoat (dog tooth?)", "Food", "Water", "Trousers", "mirrors", "A razor", and "Shaving foam".

An interview with Michael Cornelius of; JFA by MJ

① How would you describe your music?

"The bands music is Hardcore music to skate to. My personal style is pretty funky. It doesn't come out too funky on the first E.P. But thats what my bass style is mostly influenced by. I really dig Mike Watt of the Minutemen and Cris Kirkwood of the Meatpuppets, they are probably the two most influential on my style."

② What do you think of bands like the DKS or CRASS who seem to preach to kids at times, what are you trying to say in your music?

"Bands that try to tell you what to do or tell you how to think are no better than cops. I try to influence the behavior of others as little as possible. I let people do whatever they feel like. I'm real straight, I don't smoke and hardly drink, But I never tell people how much they should indulge in stuff - no matter how stupid I think they are. It's their life let them live it and live with the consequences.

(3) Why do you think kids have so much hate and violence in them today?

"I really don't know. But there are alot of nuts. A lot of Hinckley's out there Take for example all the supermarket poisonings going on. It's really scary to think that someone hates life so much that they would kill randomly. Maybe it's the pressure of an uncontrollable world. Maybe its the madness of Government / military being fed back to us.

(4) Do you plan on putting anything else out on vinyl? Any tours set up around the States? Have other states picked up on you?

"We are in the process of making our own L.P. We are on the Meat House compilation cassette and on AMuck, a local PHX compilation Lp. We will also be on a Smoke-7 Records compilation soon. And a cut will be on R.O.T.R III.

We really can't tour because of work and school obligations for most of the band. We also have problems with transportation. We aren't a band like Black Flag that eats and lives our music. We don't live together and we hardly practice, we look at it as an on going partnership. More just 4 skaters that get together sometimes to play. We play totally on phyche. If we aren't totally pumped up for a show we play bad, even if we practice. But we can not play a note together for a month, get really excited about the whole thing and just wait!"

(5) When did the band form? What do you expect from the band?

cont'd on next page

"we formed 19 days after Reagan was shot. I never thought too hard on the future of the band we just keep going and keep writing songs. It doesn't seem like a year and a half."

(4) What do you think of hardcore in the sense it limits girls - slamming etc, I mean....

"Hey, I've seen girls slamming and stage diving. Theres no reason why girls can't go to shows. Just be ready! Lots of girls go in Phx. and a fair number slam. Girls can be in bands too."

(4) Do you think the punk scene today will ever evolve in to something big or just stay basically underground?

"No, anything accepted by the masses couldn't be punk rock. It's a contradiction I do feel that Punk and Hardcore will influence normal Rock just like new wave (1977-79) has changed the sound of todays FM rock (Police, Cars, Devo are all accepted). Real punk rock will always be underground and in the clubs, personel."

DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN? →

(5) If the bomb was going to drop tomorrow and you could survive underground but could only take 5 things with you, what would they be?

"Thats too hard!, My skateboard, an acoustic guitar and 3 friends, very intelligent women, June, Ellen and Karen".

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Jody Foster's Army
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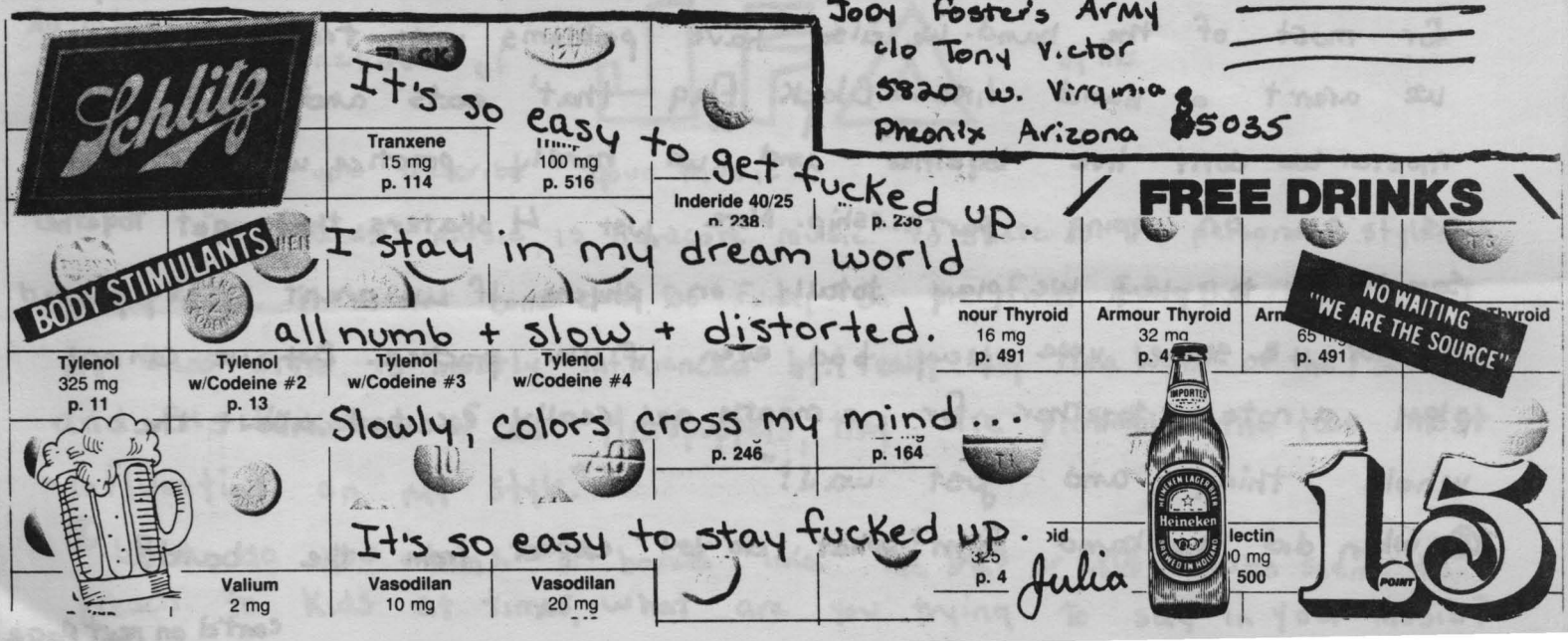


It's so easy to get fucked up.
I stay in my dream world
all numb + slow + distorted.
Slowly, colors cross my mind...
It's so easy to stay fucked up.

Julia

SETTING SUNS

On the night of November 6,1975, the music world was in for a change. The aftermath of the Sixties British invasion left the Seventies a music banality; but now, the Sex Pistols had arrived.

Their performance in musical anarchism was clear, "Something had to change."

The first Sex Pistols concert could be considered the birth of punk rock. Critics amused themselves while awaiting its decline, but it continued, added to its strength, and the "untalented musicians" didn't realize they had started the second British invasion.

Wishing to understand the cosmic forces behind this musical revolution, I erected a chart for an approximated time the Sex Pistols took the stage the night of their first public concert.

Punk rock was clearly a movement for the young and this aspect was pronounced with the Sun positioned in the fifth house dealing with the nation's youth and their entertainment. The Sun was in the sign of Scorpio, a sign which naturally deals with death and regeneration. It also indicated the English youth"s underlying violent and sexual nature.

Scorpio's ruling planets, Mars and Pluto, clarify these underlying impulses and set the atmosphere for the reoccurring theme of violence in the punk movement.

Mars and Pluto were in adverse relationship with the other, promoting the violent music. Mars was found in the twelfth house, dealing with self-undoing. With Mars square Pluto, self-destruction or mutilation became the appearance of the punks. They became society's worst enemy by becoming their own worst enemy.

Mars was placed in the sign of Cancer and began its retrgrade period that day.(Retrograde having a slower effect on the planet) This led the youth of England to think twice about their country, its values, and most importantly, of their own self-worth. Mars in retrograde would indicate that punk rock would not have much impact in the beginning and that the interest in the movement would be slow, but gain momentum as it carried on.

Ironically, the Sun in Scorpio would also indicate the mass potential for the English youth to not only become over night celebrities; but, also shows their gain--monetarily as the Sun ruled the second house of money in the chart.

Looking to the Moon, which ruled over the chart in general, it was positioned in the latter degrees of Sagitarius. This indicates the need for freedom. No longer did the English youth's wish to have their views and philosophies of the world at large become stifled.

The Moon in Sagitarius was placed within the sixth house dealing with the work envirnment. Displeasure of youth to their working envirnment became clear. They didn't want a dead-end job, 9 to 5 hassles, and as Sagitarius rules over education, many began to see school as a waste of time. Many quit school to form their own band or publish fanzines. Sagitarius also rules publishing.

The Moon was also receiving an adverse aspect from Venus. With Venus in the third house of communication it showed the attitude of "I don't care what you think of me." It is an aspect showing unpopularity.

This was certainly true in the beginning of punk rock. Venus was positioned in Virgo, an emotionally cool aspect, if not critical. It took another year and a half before punk rock became engrained into society and the music world. The year and a half is the time it took the progressed Venus to enter into its home sign, Libra, which removed the critical overtones and smoothed out the roughness of the music to a polished, acceptable form.

Much of the dipleasure felt amoungst the youth of England was directed towards the government. The sign associated with government is Capricorn, Saturn, was placed within the ascendent of the chart indicating a bitter, and hardened feelings directed towards the government.

Saturn was included in the sign of monarchy, Leo, and took a square from Mercury and Uranus in Scorpio in the house ruling over the country.

Saturn square Mercury would indicate the satire used against the royalty in England. It was not surprising to discover the SEx Pistols had their biggest hit with "God Save the Queen."

Some note must be made concerning the placement of Uranus in this chart. Uranus had just begun its transit through the sign of Scorpio and ruled over the eighth house of this chart, Scorpio's natural placement on the house cusps.

The English youth primarily affected by the new wave movement were born between '56 and '59. Many of these youths were feeling the massive upheaval Uranus brought to their own charts. During their time of birth, the illusionary planet, Neptune, had been transiting around the early degrees of Scorpio. When transiting Uranus hit their Neptune, some form of transformation would take place, no matter how violent, ugly, or repulsive it had to be.

So, why did the fury die down? One of the reasons might lie in the youths themselves. Within the fifth house, the Sun in Scorpio was sharing the nest with Neptune. Although they held a minor aspect, the illusionary powers were still there. If they tried to escape their past illusions, they began to create newer and more destructive ones.

Neptune found itself within a grand trine of fire signs and this, at least, indicated there was fuel left to burn in the punks ideology of their movement; but, the destructive Mars found itself in a difficult Cardinal t-square.

Cardinal signs show intiative and aggression. Mars being in the twelfth house put much of the initial fire into an up-hill battle with ensuing frustration leading the way to bringing itself down.

Jupiter also took part in this t-square by opposing Pluto. In my opinion this would indicate the old saying, "Too much of a good thing." Everyone rushed to enter the "Punk" realm. until the true spirit was lost.

The furor of punk rock has now been diverted into other forms of music as well as becoming the businessman's ultimate commercial dream.

Somewhere, there lies another mind who will one day over throw these musical Eighties. One could only speculate in which direction he'll take the music then.

SUE ZACHARIAS 11-82

A Song - Depressing words for Today's World

Steve Brener

What is there to say?
What is there to write?
There's nothing
Just emptiness,
Larger than the Grand Canyon

chorus: (Thats what life is, and all it ever will be
Thats all it ever can be.)

No regard for any life
Life is so regardless
Life is cheap
not to keep
After all, its all around us

chorus:

So what? (what, what, what?)
who cares? (cares, cares, cares?)
Why bother (bother, bother, bother!)
It's useless (useless, useless, useless!)
So are you (I, I, I.!)

chorus:

and it never will be!

I'M AFRAID-YOU'RE AFRAID

MJ Castriotta 8-4-82

Crying helps me ease the hurt,
a life style not so new,
All we need is time, its difficult
when an hour takes so much mileage.
People and places change, stagnation sets
in, but we can overcome it.
I don't want a life fulfillment,
just a piece of time.
We unintentionally hurt each
other with unconscious verbal remarks.
I never meant to burden anyone
again I'll remain silent.
Silent images crafted
ingeniusly
But my prolific imagery
can only be seen by me
My x-ray eyes previaled
what I thought was understood.
But the joke was on me.
I'm not laughing, I'm hurting inside
crying outside.
Crying for things I don't even know I
can have.
I want to give up, I'm a soldier
without a gun. Casualties flocked
amongst debris. Who comes out ahead?
Is it a disguise?
Seeking answers-being burried
six feet under. Helpless though
stone outside.
Will I ever trust again? Trust
the hands that promised to hold me up
but slowly dug the grave I now lay in.
Man made time will provoke the
outcome.
We start with nothing-infants
helpless naked babes
and we DIE

in the same sect.....

MOTOWN!

MARTHA REEVES AND THE VANDELLAS

Short for Motor-town, Berry Gordy started Motown Records in Detroit in 1959. Over the next decade it became a giant, transcending from merely a record label, into a "sound."

Gordy molded the Motown image carefully. He saw that the songs were kept inoffensive and unpolitical.(Only when it was hip to be political did Gordy let one or two cuts slip by.)He also kept tight control over his artists:putting them on an allowance, booking their tours and even providing their material.

The key men behind the hits were the trio of Brian Holland, Eddie Holland and Lamont Dozier. They wrote and produced for most of Motown's stars. And stars they were: at it's height, Motown had signed the Supremes, the Four Tops, Martha Reeves and the Vandellas, Smokey Robinson, the Temptations, Marvin Gaye...

Motown was particularly unusual because it succeeded at directly marketing black music on a black-run label to the white audience; not an easy undertaking.(Remember - Alan Freed was called a nigger-lover in the early 50's because he played rock by the original black artists on white radio.)

GLADYS KNIGHT

Pure pop by black musicians best describes the Motown sound. From the Supremes "Where Did Our Love Go?"(1964) to Stevie Wonder's "Signed,Sealed, Delivered-I'm Yours" (1970), the formula was based on love songs with catchy choruses and plenty of hooks. But Motown wasn't shlock. Much of what they recorded in the 60's still holds up today. In fact, a lot of dip-shit, mainstream fans probably don't know that the Rolling Stone's "Going To A Go-Go" off their recent live album is actually a cover of the Miracles' 1966 hit single. Or that Martha Reeves and the Vandellas did "Dancing In The Streets" in 1963 far better than Van Halen's 1981 version.

Motown may be past it's prime, but pop music will never be the same.

- Julia Carmel -

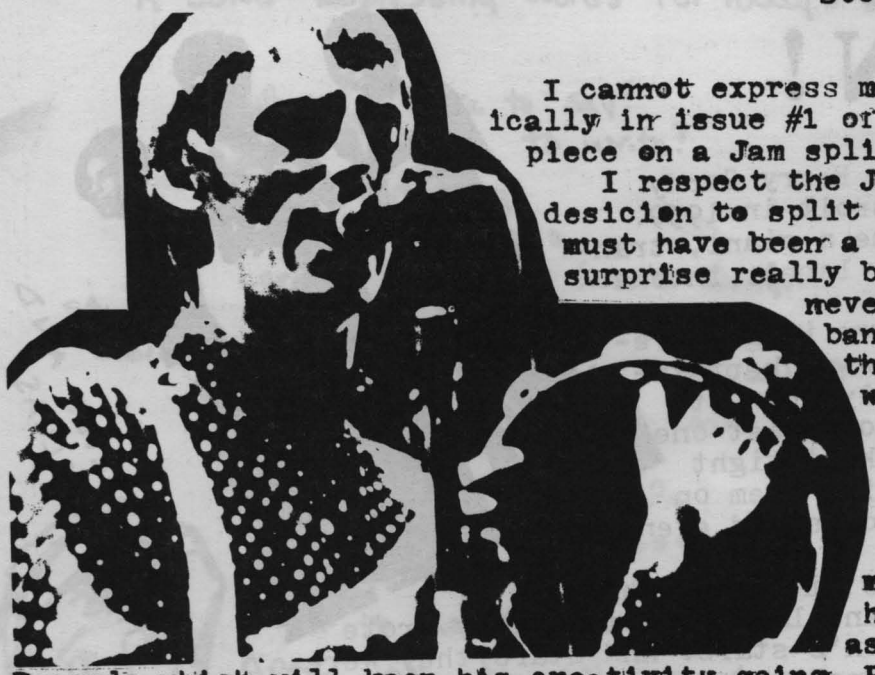
DIANA ROSS

MARVIN GAYE

DOZIER, HOLLAND + HOLLAND

The Jam Move On Up

Story and Photos by MJ Castrietta
11-10-82



I cannot express my sorrow over the Jam split. Ironically in issue #1 of Connect, Sue Zacharias wrote a piece on a Jam split-back in July!! Coincidence?

I respect the Jam more now than ever. The desicion to split when they were still brilliant must have been a difficult one. It comes as no surprise really because Paul Weller said they'd never be a 'greatest hits' band or a band in ten years singing youth anthem songs. It also shows the Jam weren't in it for the money. They are England's #1 band, if they wanted to could live off the devotion of fans who would buy any vinyl produced. I know Paul Weller will remain in the public eye, more behind scenes though. He has his publishing Co.-Riot Stories, as well as his record Co.-Jamming Records which will keep his creativity going. Paul is too constructive to waste his energy counting his money behind closed doors. Time will tell what Bruce and Rick decide to do. Bruce (and John Weller) had alot of involvement with the Vapors. But one can only speculate at this point in time what the future will be for the Jam.

I understand the aspects of a split but I can't help but feel angry and selfish. I never gave a band so much of me before. Being a Jam fan was/is like being part of an extraordinary family. Even though it was large you were never left out I've been lucky enough to meet them numerous times and never in my life has a band made me feel so comfortable. It wasn't like 'Pop Star' & 'Fan' but rather friend and friend. Thats what made the Jam so unique. Many bands only cater to the people with 'big' names or who can do them favors but the Jam took time out for the most important people-the FANS!

The memories produced in the vinyl since 1977 will never loose its intensity or forcefulness. They kept me aware and gave me hope in moments of desperasion, for this I am thankful. I am also thankful to the Jam for uniting me with some wonderful people, I met my best friend Sue Zacharias becaus e of them.

It may be stereotyped to say the Jam are a legend but for the impact they gave to me and many others they deserve such a title.

One thing Paul Weller taught me was if you have a dream strive for it. With that Sue Zacharias & I are compiling photos and fan response for a book. We are in the process of searching for publishers and copy rights. If you'd like to contribute write to us at;

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I wish each of the Jam much luck and love in their future plans....

..... MJ

"I WAS HOPING WE'D MAKE REAL PROGRESS BUT IT SEEMS WE HAD LOST OUR POWER ANY TINY STEP OF ADVANCEMENT IS LIKE A RAINDROP FALLING INTO THE OCEAN, WE'RE RUNNING ON THE SPOT, ALWAYS HAVE, ALWAYS WILL? WE'RE JUST THE NEXT GENERATION OF THE EMOTIONALLY CRIPPLED"

-Running on the Spot-
Paul Weller
(Chappell Music Ltd 1982)

VIDIOCY?

It seems rock videos are going to be the "next big thing". Already MTV enters thousands of homes, the Rat plays videos from a number of looming screens between sets; Spit even devotes its entire upstairs to video with its 13 room.

Rock video is still a relatively new field and its impact on Rock n' Roll can only be speculated on, however I'm not too sure its effects willbe beneficial.

First, rock has always been an energetic, sincere, immediate form of communication. (Ofcourse, we're talking about the real thing, not corporate/big business shit like REO or Styx)Rock was/is controvercial all the way from Elvis' gyrating hips to Johnny's "God Save The Queen".And throughout the many forms of rock, through all the years, the bottom line remained that real rock is, above all, raw energy.Video tries to capture the intimacy of a live performance and the pleasure of playing your favourite 45 until the grooves wear out, but ultimately it fails because rock was/is meant to EXPERIENCE, not to watch complacently on a little screen as if it were an episode of some lame tv show.

The videos end up as virtually nothing but an advertizement for the band(and the record companies, who stand to make the most money) As Keith Levene of PiL said(in an interview with Gerard Cosloy for Conflict)"I see video as something simple,only a promotional tool ...nothing more."

Videos may be amuzing to some, but I wonder if they signal the decline of Rock n' Roll into the shallow depths of tv-land.

— Julia Carmel —

MADNESS

SANDRA MESSINA

The new Madness album is out and if the 'fans' are expecting more "One Step Beyond" and "Baggy Trouser" copies they d better move onto something that's more their speed-like Journey. It's called "Rise and Fall" and one would think by taking a look at the pictures in and outside the cover that this might be a personal comment on the trials and tribulations of the Nutty Boy's carrer. Well, if it is, it doesn't infringe on the quality of this album. This is their 4th studio album and they are really getting good at innovating new sounds into the songs. Lee Thompson's sax doesn't just wander in for a few solos like on previous albums, but is incorporated so well into every song. The high points of the album (and there are many!) include "Blue Skinned Beast", "Mr. Speakers and "Madness Is All In the Mind". Carl Smyth is finally featured on vocals for a few songs which is a very nice change. Graham Mc Pherson's (Suggs) lead vocals here toned down a bit and they're not sounding like the rambunctious "braces and Doc Martens" band they once were. I'm not saying old Madness was bad, but if the last couple of albums had been like the first, they would have faeded away long ago. They are a band that can afford to change their style when they want to. So, get the new Madness album. And enjoy the sounds of the best band in the scene today!!

For more Madness info contact-

MADNESS INFORMATION SERVICE
(M.I.S.)
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CurSE of The GOV'T

A POEM BY
MJ CASTRIOTTA
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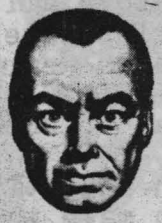
BIG BROTHER



IS WATCHING YOU

FIGHTING FOR THE WORKERS' RULE,

DYING FOR THE CAUSE,

A PLAGUED RACE STANDS AND WATCHES.

ANGER IN THEIR EYES,

A CESSPOOL OF

WASHING THE BITTERNESS IN TEARS,

THE LIGHT DIMINISHES*----

NO FUTURE.

EL SALVADORE LYNCHES LIKE A LEECH,

DRAINING HATE, DRAINGING LIVES,

FORNICATION AT THE TOP,

DISEASED MEN-WOMAN,

CAPITAL IS WOTHLESS

MURDER IS THE SUCCESS

WAR IS THE PROFIT,

WAR *IS* THE REMEDY

MX only creates a greater danger

Reagan charges N-freeze backers are 'manipulated'

F A N Z i N E S

Local Anesthetic (#8 free c/o Wax Trax, 638 East 13th Street, Denver, Colorado USA) Interesting rag. Offers lots of gig reviews, interviews w/Lords of the New Church, Dead Kennedys; record reviews, a great column ranking on those boring bands that mainstream America have taken to heart(i.e. REO, Air Supply-you get the picture)and ofcourse, a rundown of the Denver scene.

Phenis (#6 Fifty cents 527 W.13th St. Tempe,Arizona 85281 USA) Lots of info crammed into this hardcore 'zine.Interviews w/ JFA,John Stab;tape and record reviews, poetry and comedy; but,best of all, they have local and out-of-state music scene reports.And you though all Arizona had was cactus plants and cowboys.

99th Floor (#1,#2,#3 Fifty cents 145 Marks Place North Bergen, N.J. 07047 USA) If you are into the 60's punk/garage-rock sound(like me) this is for you.#1 has an interview w/ the Flesh-tones;#2 features the Vipers - but #3 is the best: Articles on the Soft Boys, a history of the Remains a reprint of a 1967 interview with the Blue Magoos, even a 5 Americans pin-up.All issues include info on current garage-rock bands plus reviews of in-print psychedelic LPs and compilations.

Frontal Assault (#9 $1.00 33 Adams St. Littleton,Mass. USA) Interviews with MDC,Chelsea, Stiff Little Fingers; hardcore record reviews, articles on Cheap Trick, Flipper, Judas Priest and Boston locals the Outlets and the Freeze. Certainly enough variety (from pop to hardcore to heavy metal)to provide something for everyone.Professional lay-out, well written. Buy it.

Closed Grooves (#2 $1.00 or 35p Barricade Products c/o 1, Tower View, Saltash, Cornwall UK) This mag offers a review of the Glastonbury Festival, an article on BBC's "The Prisoner", poetry, band interviews, a fanzine column plus a piece on the Jam/Rudi tour of the UK. All Jam fans - it is imperative you add this to your collection.Well written and presented. This fanzine is worth your hard-earned dough.

Conflict (Fifty cents 9 Jeffrey Road, Wayland, Mass. 01778 USA) A Boston tradition since 1980,this 'zine offers record reviews(everything from hardcore to psychedelic to synthesizer to ska) But my favorite parts have always been the editor's page filled with assorted info, gossip, complaints and thank you's,etc. and the always amuzing letters column. Believe me, Gerard Cosloy's biting wit and humor must be read to be appreciated.

Disorderly Conduct (#2 and #3 Sixty cents 2458 West 111th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60655 USA) No shit - this is perhaps the most neccessary fanzine to hit the world in a long time. Bomb Test writes on everything from punk to Maggie Thatcher to Oi. You may not agree with his anarchistic stance,but I guarantee he'll make you think.The issues I've seen include hardcore gig and record reviews, poetry; #3 is especially good: features interviews with Rights of the Accused and Negative Element, and an update on the Finland Scene(including Finnish fanzine addresses.)

Gender Guide ($1.00 P.O. Box 28 Boston,Mass. 02112 USA) Great rag put out by some of Boston's most warped minds, including one or two of those wild and wacky WMBR people. Doesn't offer much besides humor, but with their revealing center-fold of dj Peter Gates-well... that's all anyone would need to sell copies. Hilarious article by Lester of "Sports Palace" fame, info on STD's(if you don't know what they are, you flunk sex education)and a mini-interview with Cindy Bailin of WCOZ.

If you have a fanzine to be reviewed, send a copy to:

Julia Carmel
349 Linwood Ave.
Newton, Mass.
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Chainsaw (#6 $1.00 Box 5356 Bethelehem, Pennsylvania 18015 USA) An average fanzine "dedicated to hardcore"-(so how come the reggae record reviews?) Interviews with Cracked Actor, the Partz; fanzine column. Unfortunately their ranting and raving just doesn't inspire me. Buy a copy and decide for yourself.

jeff wolf